AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 20 as follows:

~~ii)~~iii) volatile memory means, connectable to said one or more data processors, for storing one or more of said data items;

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 23 as follows:

~~iii)~~ iv) database management system software executable by said one or more data processors to respond to a query by passing data items meeting one or more criteria specified in said query from said persistent storage means to said volatile memory means;

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 27 as follows:

~~iv)~~v) querying code executable by said one or more data processors to pass a query to said database management system software;

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 30 as follows:

vi) pre-fetching code executable by said one or more data processors to: